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4 April 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Central Reference

SUBJECT: Harvard Proposal on Mechanical Translation Research

1. I do not recommend financial participation in the Harvard automatic translation project. The production of an automatic dictionary, incapable of syntactical manipulation, and requiring post editing and human translation for making the desired text useful is not in keeping with current electronic development.

2. Success, as outlined in this proposal, would still be far behind the results of research at [] so far as mechanical translation is concerned. If Harvard's anticipated research into machine design, and the production of study texts, and statistical studies were coordinated with the [] work, it would undoubtedly be beneficial to "MT" development.

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J. J. BAGNAZZI
Chief, Foreign Documents Division, 00

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